

CLAIMS

1. An embroidery machine comprising a sewing machine body
sewable on workpiece cloth, a cloth holding frame holding
5 workpiece cloth to be sewn and a frame drive unit which has a
mounting part detachably attached to the sewing machine body and
to which the cloth holding frame is coupled so that the cloth
holding frame is moved independently in two horizontal
directions perpendicular to each other, the machine being
10 characterized in that an ink-jet printer is detachably attached
to the mounting part of the frame drive unit separated from the
sewing machine body so that the workpiece cloth held on the cloth
holding frame moved by the frame drive unit is printed by the
printer.

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2. The printable embroidery machine of claim 1, wherein a
predetermined sewing reference position of a sewing needle in
a case where the sewing machine body is attached to the frame
drive unit corresponds with a predetermined print reference
20 position of a print head of the printer in a case where the printer
is attached to the frame drive unit.

3. The printable embroidery machine of claim 2, wherein the
sewing reference position is set at a position where the sewing
25 needle corresponds with a center of a maximum moving region
obtained when the cloth holding frame is moved maximally by the
frame drive unit, and the print reference position is set at a
position where a center of the print head corresponds with the

center of the maximum moving region.

4. The printable embroidery machine of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein a connector electrically connecting the frame drive unit and the sewing machine body to each other includes a frame drive unit side connector member which is structured to be also connectable to a printer side connector member electrically connecting the frame drive unit and the printer to each other.

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5. The printable embroidery machine of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the printer has a head position switching mechanism switching the printer head between a print position where the print head is located close to the workpiece cloth held on the cloth holding frame coupled to the frame drive unit to which the printer is attached and a non-print position where the print head is spaced away from the print position.

6. The printable embroidery machine of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the printer has a purging mechanism purging the print head and a moving mechanism moving the purging mechanism and the print head horizontally relative to each other so that the purging mechanism or the print head is switchable between a purging position where purging is allowed and a printable position which is spaced away from the purging position and where printing is allowed.

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7. The printable embroidery machine of claim 2, wherein the

purging mechanism is provided with a nozzle wiper for the print head, and the print head is wiped by the nozzle wiper when the purging mechanism or the print head is moved by the moving mechanism from the purging position to the printable position.

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8. The printable embroidery machine of claim 7, wherein the purging mechanism is provided with an ink receiver which receives ink resulting from the flushing of the print head, and the moving mechanism is capable of moving the purging mechanism or the print head to a flushing position where the ink receiver is capable of receiving the ink resulting from the flushing of the print head.

9. The printable embroidery machine of claim 5, wherein the head position switching mechanism has a head guide which guides the print head so that the print head is movable upward or downward and an electric motor which drives the print head so that the print head is moved upward or downward.

10. The printable embroidery machine of claim 5, wherein the head position switching mechanism has a head support which pivotally supports the print head about a horizontal axis and an electric motor which drives the print head so that the print head is caused to pivot.

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11. The printable embroidery machine of claim 6, wherein the moving mechanism moves the purging mechanism horizontally.

12. The printable embroidery machine of claim 6, wherein the moving mechanism moves the print head horizontally.

13. The printable embroidery machine of any one of claims
5 1 to 12, wherein the printer is capable of injecting a plurality of colors of ink from the print head, thereby performing color print.

14. The printable embroidery machine of any one of claims
10 1 to 13, wherein the print head of the printer is provided integrally with a cartridge attaching part to which an ink cartridge is attachable.

15. A frame drive unit which has a mounting part which is
15 attached to a sewing machine body sewable on workpiece cloth and to which a cloth holding frame holding workpiece cloth to be sewn is coupled so that the cloth holding frame is moved independently in two horizontal directions perpendicular to each other, the frame drive unit being characterized by an ink-jet printer
20 detachably attached to the mounting part and in that the workpiece cloth held on the cloth holding frame moved by the frame drive unit is capable of being printed by the printer attached to the mounting part.